



MATTHEW 22:21, NRSV

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

*"a community of believers, called by God, led by the Holy Spirit
to know Christ and to make Christ known"*

Rev. Timothy R. Monroe

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THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAIRSVILLE

October 22, 2023 ~ 11:00 a.m.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Greeting

Rev. Timothy Monroe

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Sharing of Opportunities, Joys and Concerns

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

Berry-Bennett

Introit

“Awesome God”

Our God is an awesome God, He reigns from heaven above

With wisdom, power and love our God is an awesome God!

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Call to Worship (*Psalm 99*)

Rick Shoemaker, Liturgist

Leader: The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;

let the earth quake!

People: The Lord is great in Zion;

he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name.

Holy is he!

Leader: Mighty King, lover of justice,

you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

People: Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool.

Holy is he!

All: Extol the Lord our God,

and worship at his holy mountain;

for the Lord our God is holy.

*Hymn # 31

“I Sing the Almighty Power of God”

*Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. We worship wealth and power, forgetting that all things belong to you. We seek places of honor and glory, forgetting that glory is yours alone. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne.

*Assurance of Forgiveness

*Gloria Patri

*Sharing of the Peace

DECLARATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson

I Thessalonians 1:1-10

Anthem

“This Is My Story”

Arr. Wilson

Chancel Choir – Cindy Borbonus, Director

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon

Rev. Timothy Monroe

RESPONSE TO THE WORD OF GOD

*Affirmation of Faith

(Confession of 1967)

The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of man in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God’s purpose rather than man’s schemes will finally prevail. Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is God’s sign that he will consummate his work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

*Hymn # 474

“I Surrender All”

Prayers of the People & the Lord’s Prayer *(debt...and debtors...)*

Choral Amen

Ministry of Giving in Response to the Word

Offertory

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn # 466 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

*Benediction

*Choral Response

*Postlude

*(*All who are able, please stand)*

PLEASE JOIN us in the ritual of friendship by signing the attendance pads that are at one end of each of the pews. If you are here for the first time, we would appreciate it if you would give us your local telephone number. Please help yourself to a copy of our newsletter, *Uplift* available at the back of the church. We thank you for joining your voice to ours in sacred worship.

THE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS for this morning's service are Liturgist, Rick Shoemaker; Director of Music, Cindy Borbonus; Organist, Pam Irwin; Usher, Alan Lowman; and Property Manager, Terry Brown.

THE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT in worship this morning is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Cherry Klingensmith by Cindy Borbonus and family.

THE GRANNIES will gather in Fellowship Hall Monday at 9:00 a.m. and will work until 12:00 noon. There are a variety of tasks for everyone. All are welcome.

BELL CHOIR rehearsal will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. We are in need of ringers to complete our choir. If you have ever thought of giving handbells a try, please contact Vicky Westley.

OUR CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsal will be held Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. We would love to have new voices join us in song! If you are interested in singing with the choir, please see Cindy Borbonus. All are welcome!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA rehearsals will be held Wednesdays from 8:00-8:30 p.m. Christmas is a beautiful time of year and music is part of that beauty. If you would like to participate with the special music for the holidays, we invite you to attend rehearsal. The Christmas Cantata will be presented during worship Sunday, December 17th at 11:00 a.m. Please see Cindy Borbonus for additional information.

THE STITCHING GROUP will meet Thursday at 2:00 p.m. in the parlor. This group works on personal projects and enjoys fellowship. You are invited to bring a project you're working on and join the group.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called for Sunday, October 29th following worship to act on the retirement request of Pastor Monroe effective December 31, 2023. We will also take action on the exit package approved and recommended by the session.

THE THANKSGIVING DINNER PLANNING TEAM is in need of volunteers to help coordinate the dinner. Doug Clayton has volunteered to spearhead the team but needs help to make the dinner a success. He would like to meet this week. If you are willing to help Doug, please contact him.

OUR ANNUAL CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER will be served Sunday, November 19th immediately following worship in Fellowship Hall. Please use the bulletin insert to make your reservation by November 5th and let us know what dish you might bring to share or how you might help with the dinner. Also, we are in need of turkey bakers. If you would be willing to roast a turkey for the dinner, please see Doug Clayton or contact him. The birds will be provided, we just need cooks.

PLEASE NOTICE the polished coffee urn that was presented to Dr. Hill's family June 21, 1871 commemorating the 30th year of his pastorate. Thanks to Terry Brown for his elbow grease and patience.

THE 9TH ANNUAL COATS-FOR-KIDS DRIVE has begun. We are receiving monetary donations for the purchase of specific size coats for kids in need. Please mark your donation clearly for "Coat Drive" and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. If you know of a family with children who may need a winter coat, please contact Janet Smith.

THE BLAIRSVILLE COMMUNITY BAND will present their free Veteran's Day Concert Saturday, November 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the River Valley High School. All are invited to share in an evening of music and fellowship.

CUSTOM KEEPSAKE ORNAMENTS of the church from Wendall August Forge are available to purchase at a cost of \$12.00 each. Checks can be made payable to the church. Please see Linda George or contact the church office for an ornament or for more information.

WE HAVE BEEN receiving manufacturers' coupons for veterans for several years. During that time, we have donated a total value of \$567,694.20. As of the end of December, Erica and Ellen would like to retire from handling this program. If anyone is interested in taking it over, they are willing to teach the process. We are grateful to them both for their service.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE will soon begin to review information for the 2024 church budget. Committee chairs are asked to begin planning for next year and consider your financial needs. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the church office.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, Daylight Saving Time ends Sunday, November 5th. Remember to "Fall Back" when changing your clocks!

THE PRAYER CHAIN is coordinated by the Adult Sunday School Class. If you have a prayer request or know of someone's need for prayer, please contact Linda George or the church office. All requests are kept confidential.

REGULAR SCHEDULE:

Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Monday	9:00 a.m.	Grannies meet in Fellowship Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Boy Scout Troop Meeting
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Daisy Troop Meeting
	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Cantata Rehearsal
Thursday	2:00 p.m.	Stitching Group
	6:00 p.m.	Blairsville Brass Rehearsal
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	Worship